

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FACT SHEET



WHAT IS THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP)?

The SFSP is a Child Nutrition Program that feeds children during school vacations. It uses meal patterns similar to those used in other federal child nutrition programs. The SFSP Income Eligibility Standards are the same as those used for reduced-price eligibility in the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The SFSP is operated at the local level by program sponsors and is administered in Michigan by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Grants Coordination and School Support office.

WHAT CHILDREN CAN PARTICIPATE?

1. Children who are 18 years of age or younger.
2. Disabled persons, regardless of age, who are determined by MDE or a local public educational agency (school district or public school academy) to be mentally or physically disabled and who participate in a public or non-profit private school program established for the mentally or physically disabled.

WHAT ARE THE SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

Organizations which may sponsor the program are:

1. Public or private non-profit sponsors of the National School Lunch Program.
2. Public or private non-profit residential summer camps.
3. State, local, municipal, or county government entities.
4. Public or private non-profit colleges or universities.
5. Private non-profit organizations that provide ongoing activities for children or families.

A potential sponsor must demonstrate the necessary financial and administrative capability to meet program objectives and comply with program regulations. Sponsors must also accept final financial and administrative responsibility for all sites under their jurisdiction.

Sponsors of sites, which are not camps, must serve either:

1. A site in an area in which at least 50% of the children, who live in that defined area, are eligible for free or reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs.
2. A site which enrolls children, at least 50% of whom meet the SFSP's Income Eligibility Standards. Under these income guidelines, for example, a family of four earning less than \$39,220 annually is considered needy.

At non-camp sites, reimbursement may be claimed for all meals served that meet SFSP guidelines. Sponsors offering the SFSP at camp sites may claim reimbursement only for the program meals served to enrolled children who meet the SFSP's Income Eligibility Standards.

MEAL SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Sponsors purchase or prepare meals and serve them to the children at the site(s). Sponsors may claim reimbursement only for meal types they are approved to serve. Non-camp sites can serve either 1 or 2 meals each day. Sites which are camps, or which primarily serve children of migrant families, may serve up to 3 meals per day (any combination of breakfast, lunch, dinner, or snack).

MEAL PATTERN REQUIREMENTS

In general, meals served under the program must meet the meal pattern requirements listed below. However, there are exceptions for school sponsors that use a meal pattern other than the traditional food based meal pattern.

BREAKFAST: 1 serving each of milk; fruit or vegetable; grains/breads

LUNCH/DINNER: 1 serving each of milk; meat or meat alternate; grains/breads; 1 serving of fruit and 1 serving of vegetable, or 2 servings of either fruit or vegetable

SNACK: 2 of the 4 meal component groups served at lunch

WHAT FEDERAL FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE?

Federal funds are available in the form of per-meal reimbursement rates for program costs. Each sponsor reports monthly to MDE, the number of eligible program meals it has served. MDE pays federal entitlement funds to each sponsor in an amount equal to the number and type of program meals served times the appropriate rate. For 2009, the reimbursement rates are:

MEAL TYPE	BREAKFAST	LUNCH/DINNER	SNACK
Self-prep OR Rural sites	\$1.8150	\$3.1825	\$0.7525
Vended AND Urban sites	\$1.7800	\$3.1300	\$0.7350

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE DATE TO APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM?

Potential sponsors need to submit electronic applications for program participation by May 1, 2009. Please contact us by **March 31, 2009**, if you are interested in operating a program this summer.

HOW DO YOU APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM?

Persons desiring to apply for the program or receive further information may complete the web based Prospective Sponsor Summer Food Program Form at: www.michigan.gov/sfsp.

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